



JMCTC Supports SHARP FOCUS 07

SHARP FOCUS 07 (SF07).

SHARP FOCUS is one of four biennial exercises, supported by the United States Joint Forces Command (JFCOM) Joint Warfighting Center (JWFC) from Norfolk, VA, on behalf of Headquarters United States European Command (EUCOM). The others are FLEXIBLE LEADER, FLEXIBLE RESPONSE, and AUSTERE CHALLENGE. SF07 was Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) scheduled, EUCOM directed, and United States Army Europe (USAEUR) led. The purpose of the exercise was to culminate a series of training events intended to certify the Southern European Task Force (SETAF) as the core of a Joint Task Force (JTF) Headquarters capable of conducting full-spectrum operations.

Exercise planners spent 18 months planning this exercise. The scenario focused on the most likely missions in the EUCOM Area of Responsibility (AOR) in a plausible but most difficult location and situation. The Combined Joint Task Force (CJTF) staff conducted pre-deployment planning based upon the scenario that culminated in December during exercise LION FOCUS 07 (LF07), which was also conducted at the JMCTC. The LF07 planning products laid the foundation for SF07 as the scenario continued into SF07 in real time. Forces were notionally deployed and ready for operations under a UN mandate as SF07 was ready to begin.

Although many personnel arrived early for setup, most participants arrived for SF07 in-processing as planned on 17 January. Members of the training audience, the Combined Joint Task Force (CJTF), spent the next three days forming, receiving academic instruction, and preparing their staff sections for the operation (exercise). Members of the Joint Exercise Control Group (JECG) simultaneously conducted their own academics and prepared over 25 support cells for the exercise. Everyone participated in the COMDEX and MINIEX on 21 January. The actual exercise execution was conducted 24-hours a day from 22-30 January.

There were over 1200 participants in the exercise, about half of which were in the JECG. Military forces from the United Kingdom, Germany, France, and Italy participated in the exercise enabling the coalition. EUCOM provided a Joint Enabling Team (JET) that was embedded with the training audience and a higher headquarters response cell for the CJTF. EUCOM Components also participated in the exercise, providing the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, and Marines to both the training audience and the JECG making the exercise truly joint. The exercise was Master Scenario Event List (MSEL) driven and simulations supported (primarily JCATS and TACSIM). The response cells, to include a robust Interagency Cell, drove the 1500+ MSEL injects. The exercise was fast-paced and dynamic. As an example of Response Cell input, the Media Cell produced over a dozen WNN (simulated news) video broadcasts, almost 80 print articles, dozens of blog entries, and several radio interviews that supported the storylines, which were adapted on-the-fly based upon the response of the CJTF to various injects.

Communications (primarily 5th Sig Bde and 69th Sig Bn) and simulations (primarily JMCTC and JWFC) were consistently operational throughout the exercise. The Deployable Training Team (DTT) from JWFC provided analysts and Observer/Trainers (O/Ts) who collected information during the exercise. They used this data to conduct the Facilitated After-Action Review (FAAR) on 31 January and to prepare the Commander's Summary Report (CSR) for the SETAF (CJTF) Commander. The CJTF performed in an outstanding manner throughout the exercise; consistently impressing experienced members of the JECG. In summary, the exercise was a great success. Congratulations to SETAF and all members of the CJTF for a job well done!

The picture collage is made from photographs taken during SF07 between 22-25 January 07. They show exercise participants both in the training audience (CJTF) and in most of the exercise response cells that were part of the JECG.



VIP Visits during SF07. Over a dozen general and flag officers from the countries involved participated in or visited SF07. The Romanian Land Forces Commander, LTG Ioan, and Mr. Eric Nelson, Consul General, Munich also visited the exercise.



Pictures, left to right: 1) MG Helmick, the SETAF (CJTF) Commander briefs visitors on VIP Day, 25 Jan; 2) GEN McKiernan, the USAREUR CG, receives a CJTF briefing; 3) Mr. Nelson, Consul General, Munich, shakes hands with the JMTC Commander, BG Perkins as LTG Speer, the USAREUR DCG (and Exercise Director) looks on; 4) RADM Gallagher, the EUCOM J3 with COL Mackin, the EUCOM Director of Joint, Training, Readiness, and Exercises (JTRE).

JFTC Incoming Commander Visit. The new Commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Joint Force Training Centre (JFTC), MG Rokas, visited the JMCTC on 2 Feb 07. The visit included detailed discussions on past exercises that were combined efforts between the JFTC and JMCTC. The most recent of these exercises was RC-South, which was conducted at JMCTC in September and trained NATO staff officers for their deployment to Afghanistan in support of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). The JFTC is located in Bydgoszcz, Poland. It is NATO's focal point for tactical level training and transformation. They have a multi-million dollar-training center under construction, see: <http://www.jftc.nato.int/Welcome.htm> for more information.

Spoke Site Spotlight – SETAF.

- Training with TILT. In response to an urgent requirement to provide 173d ABCT with cultural and language training in preparation for deployment to Iraq, the SETAF Battle Command Training Center (BCTC) "spoke site", seized the initiative and acquired the Tactical Iraqi Language Trainer (TILT). TILT is an interactive training system that teaches soldiers what to say, how to say it, and when to say it in Iraqi Arabic. It also enhances cultural awareness by covering Iraq's non-verbal gestures and norms of politeness and etiquette that are most critical to communicate successfully. Training focuses on skills relevant to common, everyday situations and tasks in a tactical environment that Soldiers will likely encounter providing them with situational experience prior to deployment. From 18-20 December 2006 the TILT contractor provided train-the-trainer sessions to the SETAF BCTC L3 staff and selected SETAF soldiers enabling them to learn the instructor facets of the program and set schedules with the SETAF BCTC for future use. From 21–31 January, 173d ABCT packed the SETAF BCTC and were led through the training by the L3 staff. Additional training at the SETAF BCTC is anticipated during the remainder of the year as the 173d ABCT works through their pre-deployment timeline. In the near future, TILT will be exported to the Bamberg / Schweinfurt BCTC to facilitate language and cultural training for the SETAF units stationed there. TILT proved to be another relevant tool that BCTCs can use to prepare units for combat operations. There is a short AFN video clip here: <http://www.afneurope.net/Vicenza/Article.asp?PT=Vicenza+NEWS+YOU+CAN+USE&id=343490> that highlights the TILT training and features an interview with SETAF Functional Area 57, Simulations Officer, MAJ Woodard.



Mr. Randy Stevens (SETAF BCTC/L3) assists 173d ABCT paratroopers using TILT for Iraqi language/customs training.

- SETAF BCTC Renovations. In the effort to continue its relevance and responsiveness, the SETAF BCTC has been undergoing renovations since September 2006; planned completion date is 28 February. The project has been an integrated effort among JMCTC, SETAF, IMA-E, D&SCI, and L3. Moreover, the SETAF BCTC staff has done a commendable job in working around the renovation schedule and training Soldiers amidst the constant din of hammers and drills.



Photos: current state of the SETAF BCTC renovation project.

JNTC Accreditation and Certification. The Joint Multinational Training Center (JMTC) was recently selected for accreditation and JMCTC was selected for certification by the Joint National Training Capability (JNTC) Program in FY 07. The JNTC personnel are part of the Joint Forces Command (JFCOM). Their mission is to train and support the other Combatant Commands (COCOMs). Of course, our Regional Combatant Command (RCC) is EUCOM. The JMTC accreditation / JMCTC certification will be in support of USAREUR and EUCOM. *Joint Context* "is the joint environment necessary to accurately and realistically train individuals, units, and organizations on a specific joint task or a portion thereof. It is achieved when all required joint systems, personnel, and equipment to execute the task in real-world operations are present or accurately replicated, realistically exercised, and evaluated." *Accreditation* "is a determination that a [COCOM], Service, or component training program or organization has the capability to conduct training on joint tasks thereby providing the training audience a realistic joint environment that includes the appropriate elements of joint context for the joint tasks, or portions of joint tasks, being trained." *Certification* "is a determination that training sites and systems are compliant with specified DoD and JNTC architectures, configurations, and standards required to create a realistic joint training

environment, and are supportable.” The purpose of accreditation and certification is “to collaboratively: 1) Build a process that will ensure delivery of a recurring, consistent, realistic, training environment for all units participating in joint training, regardless of location; 2) Enhance the ability of commanders to more accurately assess the performance and joint readiness of their organizations; and 3) Promote continuous improvement through constructive feedback and a targeted investment strategy.” The preparation for the accreditation and certification events is now underway at the JMCTC. It will be an interactive and iterative process involving members of the USAREUR training community and members of the JNTC Team. Once the accreditation and certification process is complete USAREUR will have greater access to joint training solutions and may have access to joint funding for specific initiatives to mitigate officially identified joint training shortfalls.

Stryker Mockup Update. The JMCTC M&S Branch is developing a Stryker Mockup to train crew drills and collective tasks in a virtual environment. It is a collaborative effort with GSC-Rodelheim, for the construction of the Stryker Mockup, and D&SCI, for the software interface, which will provide the virtual training environment. A D&SCI team visited JMCTC two weeks ago to prepare a hardware and software proposal and estimate for the project. Their comments are being incorporated into the mockups physical design so GSC-Rodelheim can start construction of a first full-size version soon. These Stryker crew trainers will allow the crew to see and interact with a virtual battlefield through their vision blocks and to interact with other participants through battle command and communications systems like those in an actual Stryker. Multiple Stryker crews will be able to train collectively in a virtual environment. There is currently no other Army plan to build a virtual crew trainer specifically for the Stryker crews. The JMCTC intent is to build a full-size prototype in the next three-months for testing, prior to building a total of eight. They will also enable multi-echelon training through interaction with constructive simulations (i.e. JCATS). Look for more on the Stryker Mockups in upcoming newsletter a few months from now.



A 3-foot mockup is shown here, a full-size (25') version will be made soon.

Hails.

Mr. Bruce Bollinger. Transferred to JMCTC on 7 Jan 07 from JMTC JMTEd, within Grafenwöhr, where he was the Chief, TADS Branch, TSAE. He is now assigned as the Branch Chief of the Mission Support Branch.

Ms. Belinda Carnley. Arrived 7 Jan 07 from USACE in Fort Worth, TX where she served as a Contractor Industrial Relations Specialist. She is now assigned to the Mission Support Branch as an Acquisition Support Specialist.

MAJ(P) Packard Mills. Arrived 26 Jan 07 from JMRC in Hohenfels where he served as a Senior Military Intelligence Observer/Controller. He is now assigned to the Intel and Security Branch where he will serve as the Branch Chief.

PFC Timothy Brown. Arrived 30 Jan 07 from D/447 Sig Bn at Fort Gordon, GA. He is now assigned to the Commo Branch.

SSG Christopher Judy. Arrived 31 Jan 07 from 1/67 AR Rgt at Fort Carson where he served as a Tank Commander. He is now assigned to the Operations Branch.

SSG Richard Hall. Arrived 31 Jan 07 from 32d Sig Bn/22d Sig Bde in Darmstadt, GE. He is now assigned to the Commo Branch.

Upcoming Events. Events scheduled at JMCTC hub and spoke sites for this month are shown below. The next OPSYNCH meeting / telecon will be 12 Feb 07 at 1000 hours. Changes are anticipated at this meeting which will affect March and April.

FEB	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
2007	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED
HUB																												
(JOC) 1026																												
1026 B, C, D																												
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JMRC																												
21ST TSC																												
B'HOLDER																												
S'FURT																												
SETAF																												
OTHER																												

Legend:

JCATS	JCAT/JDL	JDL	DBST	SELS	MRF	DAVARS	MEL/OC	TENTATIVE	HOL
TEST	PREP	ALL SIMS	BRFS						

Closing Thoughts. The JMCTC continues to rapidly grow and evolve as an organization. We will achieve end-state in July, as remaining Army positions assigned to the Warrior Preparation Center are transitioned to Grafenwöhr. We have several initiatives underway that have been covered in this and previous newsletters and we have other emerging efforts such as the Digital University that are still in the planning stages but will be covered in future newsletters. Thanks to all of you that participated in SF07 and helped it to become such a valuable training event. Remember the extra effort you put into training may indirectly save the life of a service member in the future. *One Team, One Fight! LTC Seitz, JMCTC DDOS*